

DATA RETRIEVAL DEVICE

ABSTRACT

5 A data retrieval device capable of attaining a low
power consumption while utilizing high speed retrieving
characteristics of a CAM, wherein a plurality of rule
data with determined priority is newly arranged in an
order of the size and assigned to memory blocks in
10 accordance with the order, information on the assigned
data range is stored in a register, the rule data is
rearranged again in the priority order in each memory
block, a range comparator compares input retrieval data
with a content held in the register and a memory block to
15 be retrieved is specified by the result, and a block
controller activates only the specified block at the time
of retrieving and not activating other blocks, so that a
power consumption at the tem of retrieving is reduced for
that amount.